

the ravine behind them, I heard one of the men call out to those at the other battery and say: "Boys, it's all right, it is the First North Carolina Cavalry that is supporting us!"

I cannot close this sketch without paying a deserved tribute to my brother officers. Governor Ellis had the appointment of the officers of the ten regiments of State Troops. The regiment of cavalry seemed to have been a pet of his from the beginning. He selected the colonel and lieutenant-colonel from the old army, both West Point graduates and of fine reputation in their respective commands. James B. Gordon, of Wilkes county, as Major, proved himself a soldier of extraordinary capacity. The captains of companies were selected from widely different parts of the State, all men of ability, high standing and reputation in their respective sections. Captain Ruffin had been a member of the United States Congress, Captains Folk, Crumpler and Cheek were lawyers and members of the Legislature, Captain Houston was Solicitor of his judicial district, Captain Miller was a distinguished physician of Charlotte, Captains Woodfin and Barringer were able and prominent lawyers, and Captains Siler and Whitaker were wealthy, educated and accomplished gentlemen. The Governor was equally circumspect in the selection of subaltern officers, many of whom rose to prominent positions during the war. Of the field and company commanders that he appointed one rose to be a major-general, four became brigadiers and the fifth was recommended for a like promotion, and favorably indorsed by General R. E. Lee, who, however, stated in his indorsement that there was no vacancy to which he could be assigned. So the appointment rested until after the 31st of March, 1865, when General Lee recommended that the commission be issued *for special gallantry* on the bloody field of Chamberlain's Run. If it was ever issued by the Secretary of War it never reached its owner, but was lost amid the wreck and ruins of the Confederacy. Some of his friends think he is entitled to the rank, and kindly call him General, but he aspires not to the title, preferring rather to be known as the colonel of a regiment which under